FROM —THE— LAND

OUR ENDANGERED SPECIES, AYERSGAP, MOORE BROOK, MINE MOUNTAIN, DEVIL'S HOPYARD, GREAT ISLAND, GLOBAL CONSERVATION, TNC CALENDAR & MORE

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with the same

A PUBLICATION OF THE NATURE CONSERVANCY CONNECTICUT CHAPTER

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Racing Against Extinction

Few of the problems facing humanity today bear the irreversible consequences of species extinction. Each of Earth's 20 million species is genetically different, a unique product of nature representing eons of evolutionary design. With each extinction we lose not only a species genetic resevoir but also its distinct role within its ecosystem. The interrelated web of species provides the planet's ecological stability; no one knows which of life's many strands will unravel the entire ecological cloth.

Biological diversity affords humanity a sustainable agriculture along with an increasing supply of pharmaceutical products to save and lengthen our own lives. Our biological treasures also educate, delight, renew, and inspire us. *They*

must be saved.

Extinction occurs naturally, but human overpopulation and habitat exploitation have accelerated the rate to a thousand times its "normal" pace. Not since the dinosaurs disappeared has our planet experienced species loss in such numbers.

Many organizations try to save the environment but only one—The Nature Conservancy—focuses on a continuing mission to preserve biological diversity. TNC is working in all 50 states, Canada, Latin America, and the Caribbean to identify and save rare species and ecosystems. The Connecticut Chapter's staff and trustees are striving to accomplish our share of the mission and we are reaching beyond the state's borders to support TNC's expanding international program.

As a member of TNC you should be proud you are helping a highly effective and expanding land-saving organization. While our record of accomplishment is impressive, the race is far from over. Our efforts in the next decades will determine the fate of many species. With increasing support from our members, TNC will protect thousands of rare species and millions of acres of

prime ecosystems.

If humans ever are to experience true peace and harmony with our Earth, we must first preserve the bounties of nature with which our planet has been endowed. No mission is more vital.

en Corer

Leslie N. Corey, Jr. Executive Director

Legislation Proposed To Protect State's Endangered Species

A bill that would give some degree of protection to plants and animals deemed endangered within Connecticut is being presented to the 1989 General Assembly.

Most New England states already have enacted similar laws protecting species that are at risk within

their borders.

The proposed Connecticut Endangered Species Act would complement the Federal Endangered Species Act, which regulates the effects of federally funded projects on listed species and prohibits hunting and trade of them. However, the federal law protects only eight of the more than 400 species in the state that the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) calls "species of special concern," and three of those eight may no longer exist in the state.*

Over the past two years, under the leadership of Dr. Steven Kellert of the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, the Nonharvested Wildlife Citizens Advisory Board, in conjunction with the Connecticut DEP, has developed the proposed legislation. The Nature Conservancy and other conservation groups have assisted with the design of this bill and will

The legislation would protect our threatened and endangered plants and animals by:

- 1. Creating an official state list of threatened and endangered species and preparing a list of habitats essential for their survival:
- 2. Prohibiting the willful taking of a listed species without prior written permission of the property owner and prohibiting anyone, including landowners, from the willful taking of any listed species for commercial or trade purposes. It also would impose a penalty for the taking of listed species on state-owned land;
- 3. Requiring all state agencies or agency-funded projects to apply for an exemption from DEP if a proposed action would threaten the existence of a listed species or destroy essential habitat;
- 4. Requiring DEP to establish programs in addition to the existing Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program to acquire land for the conservation of endangered and threatened species and their essential habitat and allowing DEP to enter into agreements with other agencies and private organizations to help administer the Connecticut Endangered Species Program and the management or conservation of listed species and their habitats;

Pictured at right and on our cover, the peregrine falcon is one of the species that the proposed Connecticut Endangered Species Act would protect.

support its passage.





5. Establishing a Connecticut Endangered Species Task Force to make recommendations to DEP on how the information about endangered and threatened species should be used to develop a comprehensive plan to protect listed species and their essential habitat. The task force's members would include elected and government offficials and representatives of private conservation organizations.

"Passage of a Connecticut Endangered Species Bill is one of our top priorities for the coming year," says Executive Director Les Corey. "While the Conservancy is seldom involved in legislative matters. except those involving public funding for land preservation, we are losing species and habitats faster than they can be saved. Connecticut desperately needs a comprehensive program that officially designates our most threatened plants and animals and their habitats and that gives endangered species a greater degree of protection by law."

* The small whorled pogonia, shortnose sturgeon, bald eagle, peregrine falcon, roseate tern, piping plover, Indiana bat, and eastern cougar. The bald eagle winters in Connecticut but has no nesting sites in the state; the peregrine falcon has not been known to nest here for several decades. There have been only scattered historical reports of sightings of the Indiana bat in Connecticut, and the eastern cougar may be extinct in the state.

Connecticut Chapter Goes Global

by Ogden Tanner Connecticut Chapter Trustee

Welcome, Paulina!

Beginning around April 1, Connecticut Chapter members and staff will have a chance to meet and work with a representative of a partner organization in Latin America, where The Nature Conservancy has become increasingly involved in recent years.

Her name is Paulina Ospina, the new development director of Fundación Natura, a private Colombian conservation group established with Conservancy help in 1984. Headquartered in Bogota, with a new Conservation Data Center in Cali, the foundation is working to protect Colombia's biological diversity, which is among the richest in the world—its high number of rare and endemic plants and animals include more than twice as many species of birds as the United States and Canada combined. As in other Latin America countries, these species are threatened by the relentless destruction of the tropical rain forests in which they live.

Paulina, who has been helping to plan Fundación Natura's first national corporate campaign as well as its international fund-raising efforts, will work in the Chapter's Middletown offices for four to six weeks, learning how to manage annual campaigns, including recruiting, cultivation, and record keeping.



She also hopes to travel around the state to see some of our preserves and share her experiences with local member groups.

Paulina is no stranger to the United States, having spent seven years in California earning her master's degree in public health and doing social work in Los Angeles. She is fluent in English but promises to help interested staff members brush up on their Spanish, too.

In addition to underwriting Paulina's travel and living expenses, the Connecticut Chapter hopes to sponsor up to seven other young Latin American conservationists who are expected to visit the U.S. during 1989, spending varying amounts of time at TNC headquarters and in the field. Some, like Paulina, will study techniques of membership development and income generation. Others will learn about the identification, protection, and management of critical habitats as nature preserves.

Beside Colombia's Fundación Natura, the fellowships will involve three conservation groups in Brazil, which contains nearly one third of the world's remaining tropical forests and a high percentage of its endangered animals and plants.

Fundăçao Pro-Natureza (FUN-ATURA), based in the capital city of Brasilia, is working on alternatives to the destruction of the vast Amazonian rain forest as well as the protection of the Cerrados, the mixture of open savannas and riverplain forests that covers almost a third of Brazil. The Cerrados is home to the endangered giant anteater, the giant armadillo and the maned wolf. Like other natural areas it is threatened by the advance of the agricultural frontier.

Paulina Ospina in her office at Fundación Natura, Bogota, Colombia.

"Peace with the Earth is the first peace." — Henry Beston

Sao Paulo, has set out to preserve what remains of the Atlantic coastal forest, which as a result of intensive development has dwindled from its original 470,000 square miles to 55,000 square miles today. The forest has an unusually high level of endemism—40 percent of its mam-

S.O.S. Mata Atlantica, based in

mals, 50 percent of its birds, and 55 percent of its plants occur nowhere else.

Fundăçao Estadual do Meio Ambiente (FEMA) is an automonous organization created by the governor of the state of Mato Grosso to conduct environmental assessment and monitoring in central Brazil. Its major concern is the threatened Pantanal, an interior region whose 50 million acres constitute the largest and most diverse freshwater wetland system on Earth. It is populated by countless numbers of caimans, capybaras and aquatic birds.

In December, I gave a report to the Connecticut Chapter's board about the proposed fellowship program. As head of the Chapter's Global Conservation Committee I recently had visited Brazil's Atlantic Forest and Amazon regions. I traveled with TNC Chairman David Harrison, President Frank Boren, and Latin America Division Vice President Geoff Barnard, meeting with officials of FUNATURA and S.O.S. Mata Atlantica and observing deforestation and conservation efforts first hand.

The Chapter board enthusiastically voted to endorse the program with a pledge of \$30,000. With this move, Connecticut joins TNC chapters in Ohio, Wisconsin, Missouri, Maryland and Florida, which have agreed to underwrite other projects with Latin American partners in a commitment to conservation on an international scale.

Editor's Note: If you would like to invite Pauline Ospina to speak to your club or organization or if you who would like to consider a donation toward the Chapter's international fund raising goal please contact Noreen Cullen at the Middletown office.

February 23 (Thursday), 9 PM & February 24 (Friday), 3 PM Special on CPTV

"Endangered," a program jointly produced by The Nature Conservancy's Connecticut Chapter and the Connecticut Audubon Society, is scheduled to air on Connecticut Public Television.

March 4 (Saturday), 10 AM & 1 PM Field Trip in Thames Valley

The Connecticut Audubon Society (CAS) will lead 15 people on hikes at two Thames Valley nature preserves: Poquetanuck Cove in Ledyard (owned by TNC) and Morgan R. Chaney Sanctuary in Montville (owned by CAS). The nearby sanctuaries are identical in size, but different in ecology and history. Trip leaders are Louis Bachiocchi, Tim Boroczy, and Lauren Brown. Fee: \$2 for CAS members, \$5 for nonmembers. Attend one or both walks (Chaney at 10 AM, Poquetanuck at 1 PM). To register and get directions, write to: CAS Fairfield Center, 2325 Burr St., Fairfield, CT 06430. No reservations will be taken without a check (payable to the Connecticut Audubon Society).

March 12 (Sunday), 9 AM TNC Featured on CBS

A segment on The Nature Conservancy is expected to be a feature of the television program "CBS Sunday Morning."

April 1 (Saturday), 10 AM Work Party at Griswold Point

To help protect the nesting terns and plovers in Old Lyme, The Nature Conservancy again will erect a seasonal fence around a section of Griswold Point. Volunteers are needed to help dig post holes in the sand, string fence, and secure it. The work will be done rain or shine. If you are interested in helping, please drop a card by March 15 to: Griswold Point Work Party, The Nature Conservancy, 55 High Street, Middletown, CT 06457. We will send you the details and a map.

April 27 (Thursday), 8 PM Slide Show on Notable Trees

Glenn Dreyer, director of the Connecticut College Arboretum in New London and chairman of the Connecticut Botanical Society's Notable Trees Committee, will show slides and share information about the state's largest and most interesing trees gathered during a four-year statewide survey. Learn about the state's largest tree (a sycamore), our three national champions (sugar maple, European larch, and grey birch), the tallest tree (a white pine in TNC's Cathedral Pines preserve), and many New England recordholders. For more information about this program at the James L. Goodwin Forest and Park Center in Middlefield, contact the Connecticut Forest and Park Association at 346-

May 6 (Saturday), 10 AM Work Party at Burnham Brook

Volunteers are needed for a work party at the Burnham Brook Preserve in East Haddam, where the remains of an old household dump needs to be removed and a test pit filled in. The work party will be followed by an afternoon tour of the preserve. The party/hike will be rescheduled in case of inclement weather. Bring a picnic lunch; beverages will be provided. For directions and more information call Dick Goodwin at 873-8514.

June 3 (Saturday), 9:30 AM Work Party at Ayers Gap

Volunteers are needed to mark a trail, clean up trash, and post the boundaries at TNC's new Ayers Gap Preserve in Franklin. Please bring gloves, trash bags, pick-up trucks, and pruners. After lunch (TNC will provide juice and cookies) at 1 pm we will view the fruits of our labor with a hike around this 80-acre site. Meet at the roadside pulloff on Route 207 just east of Under the Mountain Road (at either 9:30 am or 1 pm). Rain date: June 4 (call 347-4470 by 8 am on June 3 if conditions are questionable).

DID YOU KNOW?

Local Artists' Work Graces New Notecards



The work of Connecticut artists Barron Naegel, Michael DiGiorgio, and Julie Zickefoose is featured in a set of notecards created especially for the Connecticut Chapter. Naegel's cards depict Poquetanuck Cove in Ledvard and Griswold Point in Old Lyme, while DiGiorgio drew the showy lady's slipper orchid and Zickefoose a piping plover family. A boxed selection of eight

cards (two of each rendering) is \$5, which includes tax, postage, and handling. Call or write to the Connecticut Chapter to place your order.

National Geographic Features Conservancy In Centennial Issue

The Nature Conservancy was featured in a 28-page article in National Geographic's December 1988 issue, which consisted of a special "state-

80 Acres in Franklin Shelter Rare Fern, Geological Features

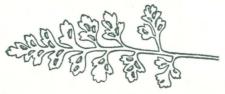
With the purchase of 80 acres at Ayers Gap, a rugged parcel that includes a rocky gorge in a dense forest of eastern hemlock, the Connecticut Chapter late in 1988 made its first acquisition in the vicinity of Franklin in eastern Connecticut.

Bailey Brook, a perennial stream, cascades for half a mile through the gorge, which is known as Bailey's Ravine. A rare fern, mountain spleenwort (Asplenium montanum), grows in the crevices of granite rock faces nearby. The fern is known to exist at only five other sites in Connecticut.

The property also contains interesting geological features carved into the rock by swirling funnels of glacial meltwater. These potholes have been the focus of a recent study by geologists from the University of Connecticut.

The Nature Conservancy purchased the property from Miss Felice Marnicki of Suffield, who long had considered the land worthy of protection and thought The Nature Conservancy would be an appropriate owner of this special area.

A temporary loan of \$55,000 from the Conservancy's revolving land preservation fund provided the necessary funds. The Nature Conservancy is working to raise \$80,000 to cover the purchase price and create a permanent stewardship fund for the property. A local preserve committee of volunteers will be organized to help manage the property and will establish a loop trail with the help of a work party on June 3.





montanum), is a rare fern known to exist at only a half dozen sites in Connecticut.

"The preservation of Ayers Gap has been a high priority of the Connecticut Chapter for some time," says Executive Director Les Corey. "Conservancy ownership of this spectacular natural area will guarantee its permanent preservation and accessibility to future generations for passive recreational, educational, and scientific purposes.

"This is a wonderful deal and we are grateful to Miss Marnicki for her patience and willingness to sell to the Conservancy at such a bargain price."

Carolie Evans, the Chapter's director of land protection, said it was a privilege to work with Miss Marnicki during the 18 months it took to complete the transaction.

Ayers Gap will be added to the 72 other preserves in Connecticut permanently owned by The Nature Conservancy. Approximately 200 natural areas, representing over 19,000 acres, have been protected by the Connecticut Chapter.

Directions to Ayers Gap: From Route 2, take the Franklin exit (number 27) and follow Route 32 north for 10-12 miles to Route 207. Turn right and head east on Route 207 for 2-3 miles until reaching the limited parking area at a road-side pull-off across from Under the Mountain Road.

590 Acres Registered At Mine Mountain

Within the past few months, five landowners have registered over 590 acres of property near Mine Mountain in Sharon, making this town a significant site of successes in the Connecticut Chapter's Registry Program.

Thanks to the cooperation of Donald & Helen Humeston, Michael & Kerin Deutsch, Margaret Church, Margery May Clark, and the E. W. Miles National Audubon Sanctuary, The Nature Conservancy now can protect several uncommon or rare species of plants, birds, and salamanders that inhabit this area.

Common ravens, which have experienced population declines in Connecticut due to habitat loss, have established at least two nests on Mine Mountain and surrounding hills. Important buffer areas around nest sites and open fields used for feeding now have been protected under the Registry program.

Jefferson and four-toed salamanders both occur on the Audubon property. Four-toed salamanders are considered rare throughout much of their range, but their strictly nocturnal habits make further information on them difficult to gather. It is fortunate that the Audubon property is protected as a wildlife sanctuary and that actions now can be taken to protect these uncommon amphibians and their habitats.

Many species of rare plants occur in the wetlands surrounding Mine Mountain. Registry of the Humeston parcel is helping to protect four wetland-loving plants, including two bulrushes, alder-leaf buckthorn and hoary willow. Further field study may even lead to more discoveries.

Runoff from four of these properties directly feeds the Humeston marsh or a nearby state-owned marsh that hosts five birds considered uncommon in Connecticut, including American and least bitterns, pied-billed grebe, sora rail, and hooded merganser.

"Mine Mountain in Sharon is truly a special area" says Mark McEathron, registry director for the Connecticut Chapter. "Farmland, wetland, and woodland all contribute to create habitat which supports a diverse array of Connecticut's unusual flora and fauna. Our hats are off to these five concerned landowners for cooperating with The Nature Conservancy."

The Conservancy's registry program encourages the preservation of important natural lands in private ownership. This non-binding, non-regulatory program awards plaques of appreciation to landowners who voluntarily safeguard rare species or important habitat on their property. Currently, 135 tracts equalling 4,855 acres have been registered in Connecticut.

Landowners who register their natural areas agree to preserve and protect the area to the best of their abilities; notify the Conservancy of any threats to the area; and notify the Conservancy of any intent to sell or transfer ownership of the property, thus enabling TNC to acquire the site or contact the new owner about registering it.

Through such cooperation from the property owners, TNC hopes to curb the loss of irreplaceable natural assets and monitor the condition of dozens of important natural areas.

Recent registries include:

Site (Owner)

Dead Man's Swamp, Cromwell (Lee Waters)

Dead Man's Swamp, Cromwell (Ron Marchinkoski)

Enfield Rapids, Suffield (Eugene Markowski)

Enfield Rapids, Suffield (Richard Scully)

Moosup River, Sterling (Rob Dixon)

Higby Mountain, Middletown /Middlefield

(Joseph Courtright)
Pratt Cove, Deep River

(William & Vera Martin)

Rattlesnake Hill, Southbury (Town of Southbury)

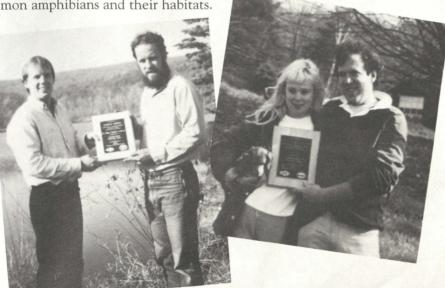
Robbins Swamp, South Canaan (Bernard Lombardi)

Rocky Hill Meadows, Wethersfield/Rocky Hill (Ruth Willard)

Sharon Mine Mountain, Sharon (Don & Helen Humeston)

Sharon Mine Mountain, Sharon (Margaret Church)

Sharon Mine Mountain, Sharon (Margery May Clark)



Far left: Mike Dudak(right), sanctuary manager, accepts a plaque of appreciation from Mark McEathron, the Chapter's director of registry, for the National Audubon Society's E. W. Miles Wildlife Sanctuary, a newly registered property in Sharon.

Right: Michael & Kerin Deutsch

State Land Trusts' Conservation Efforts Are Recognized

Six land trusts in Connecticut recently were recognized by the Connecticut Land Trust Service Bureau (CT-LTSB) for their outstanding efforts during the past year.



During the group's sixth annual convocation, its director, Carolie Evans (the Connecticut Chapter's director of land protection), and TNC Regional Director Dennis Wolkoff presented the Second Annual Recognition Green Up Awards to the following trusts:

Land Trust of Darien,
Cooperative Award;
Essex Land Conservation Trust,
Stewardship Award;
Joshua's Tract Conservation and
Historic Trust, Protection
Award;
North Stonington Citizen's
Land Alliance, Progress Award;
Redding Land Trust,

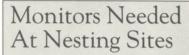
Productivity Award;
Roxbury Land Trust,
Innovative Program Award.

Cosponsored by The Nature Conservancy and contributing land trusts, the convocation was held October 29, 1988, at the University of Hartford for some 140 representatives of 52 land trusts from Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Twenty volunteer speakers presented eight sessions on topics of interest to land trusts, such as the relationship between conservation and development, tax issues, land management, conservation easements.

Volunteers Help With Eagle Viewing At Shepaug Dam

For the fourth year members of the Connecticut Chapter have participated in the Bald Eagle Observation Area at the Shepaug Dam in Southbury. Thanks to the 55 volunteers who made the program possible, the observation area was again open to the public three mornings a week. The program is a joint effort of Northeast Utilities, the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, and The Nature Conservancy. Volunteers, recruited by the Conservancy, serve a vital role in educating the public and assisting in the operation of the site.



The Nature Conservancy needs volunteers to monitor least terns and piping plovers at Long Beach in Stratford and Sandy Beach in West Haven. Volunteers are needed weekend days in late spring and early summer to protect nesting sites and provide visitors with information on the birds. For more information please contact: Least Tern/Piping Plover Project, The Nature Conservancy, 55 High Street, Middletown, CT 06457.



Above left: Dennis Wolkoff, Eastern regional director of The Nature Conservancy, congratulates Jean Leuchtenburg, president of the Essex Land Conservation Trust for the trust's successful land management program.



"To Save a River" Slide Show Available For Your Organization

Conservancy speakers are avaliable in the Greater Hartford area and river towns to present the "To Save a River" slide show to groups of gardeners, conservationists, retirees, and others interested in TNC's Connecticut River Protection Program.

The show highlights the rare or endangered animals, birds, and plants and the pristine natural areas that the Conservancy seeks to preserve along the entire river from its source at the Canadian border to Long Island Sound.

For more information about how your group can see this show, contact Bill Reed or Mark McEathron at the Chapter office.



or-the-earth report celebration of the magazine's centennial anniversary. Editor Wilbur Garrett, who serves on TNC's Board of Governors, said the magazine hopes to "drive home the sad truth that we're not treating our planet as if it were the only home we have." The issue introduces people who are doing something about the environmental and population problems that will affect all of us in the century ahead.



Free Brochure About State Forests

Complimentary copies of the latest edition of Connecticut Forest Facts are available from the Connecticut Forest and Park Association, 16 Meriden Road, Middletown, CT 06457; phone 346-2372. The brochure was revised last fall with support from the Barnes Foundation.

The Nature Conservancy at Work

| | Nationally | Connecticut |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total Projects | 7,827 | 349 |
| Total Acres Saved | 3,446,618 * | 15,561 |
| Acres Registered | _ | 4,855 |
| Tracts Registered | 2,547 | 135 |
| Tradeland Tracts Received | 750 | 10 |
| Members | 461,960 | 12,570 |
| Corporate Associates | 222 | 12 |

^{*}Includes registered properties

Easement Protects Calcareous Wetlands At Moore Brook

Twenty-three acres of important calcareous wetland in Salisbury containing a number of plants rare in Connecticut have been protected through a perpetual conservation easement granted by Curtis and Susan Rand.

The wetland at Moore Brook includes the state's largest known population of *Petasites palmatus* (sweet coltsfoot). Underlain by a significant aquifer, Moore Brook also is one of the richest wildlife areas in Salisbury.

The easement brings the total number of easements at Moore Brook to nine and the number of acres under permanent protection to 270.

The Rand easement protects about a third of a mile of Moore Brook and its associated wetlands. As with the other easements along the Brook, the stewardship and monitoring of this tract will be the responsibility of The Salisbury Association.

"The Rand family are dedicated Conservancy members whose decision to further protect one of Connecticut's most important inland wetlands is further tribute to their strong land conservation ethic," says Executive Director Les Corey. "We are forever grateful to all of the donors to this project and hope other landowners along Moore Brook will follow the lead of these individuals and help us complete the Moore Brook Preserve."



Susan & Curtis Rand pictured above, recently donated an easement to The Nature Conservancy at Moore Brook.

Due to the continued ownership of the land by the Rand family and the ecological fragility of the area, this tract is closed to the public, as are the others at Moore Brook.

Efforts to preserve Moore Brook began in May 1983, when several landowners lead by Dr. Mary Alice White, joined with the Conservancy and The Salisbury Association to protect this pristine wetland corridor through easements.

A conservation easement is a legal agreement in which landowners voluntarily limit certain of their uses and rights in the property. Generally, landowners agree to conservation easements to preserve natural values of their land and protect wildlife habitat.

Conservancy members desiring more information on conservation easements may contact Carolie Evans, director of land protection, at the Connecticut Chapter in Middletown.



The Moore Brook watershed is one of the largest aquifers in the upper Housatonic Valley and one of the last large roadless areas left in Connecticut. To date, the Chapter has secured conservation easements from nine landowners protecting more than 270 acres of prime riparian habitat.

Chapter Helps State Add 11 Acres To Devil's Hopyard

At the request of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Connecticut Chapter has purchased 11 prime acres of woods and ledge outcrops in East Haddam adjacent to Devil's Hopyard State Park. The parcel on Jones Hill Road is bounded by the park on both the west and the north.

The state asked The Nature Conservancy to expedite the acquisition and protection of this property on Jones Hill Road to help the owner, Eli Danikow, to complete the sale in 1988.

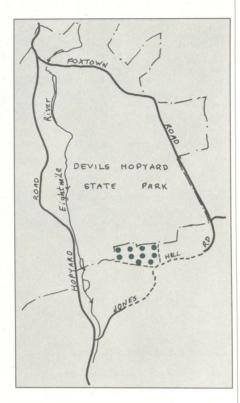
Besides providing the park with access to Jones Hill Road, the parcel protects a hiking trail that offers outstanding views of the Eight Mile River valley looking south toward Lyme. It also helps create a natural wildlife corridor between the park and the Conservancy's Burnham Brook preserve.

DEP eventually will purchase the property from The Nature Conservancy through the Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program.

Using a short-term loan from the Chapter's Land Preservation Fund, the Chapter paid \$155,000 to acquire the parcel and protect it from development. The loan will be repaid once the property is transferred to DEP.

"This is another example of the good results that come out of cooperation between the public and private sectors," says Leslie Carothers, commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection. "Private conservation organizations like The Nature Conservancy are a very important part of the web of groups that make environmental protection possible in Connecticut."

This is the fourth joint acquisition that The Nature Conservancy has completed with DEP under the Recreation and Natural Heritage Trust Program. Previous purchases included Devil's Ridge in East Haddam, Bear Hill Wildlife Management Area in Bozrah, and Cedar Island in Clinton, which was added to the Hammonasset Natural Area. Chapter members made substantial donations to the Devil's Ridge and Cedar Island projects.



Devil's Hopyard State Park East Haddam, Connecticut

• • 11.1 acre TNC acquisition - State park boundary line

"I would feel more optimistic about a bright future for man if he spent less time proving that he can outwit Nature and more time tasting her sweetness and respecting her seniority." — E. B. White

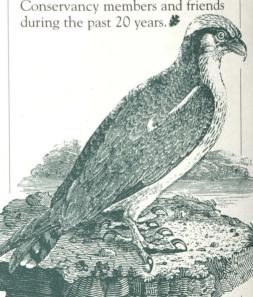
Rich Salt Marshes At River's Mouth Are Given to TNC

Thanks to the generosity of the Clayton Clark family, The Nature Conservancy now owns a third parcel of an extremely rich salt marsh system on Great Island at the mouth of the Connecticut River. The gift was made on behalf of the Conservancy's Connecticut River Protection Program.

Protected by the barrier beach of Griswold Point, the Great Island marshes harbor birds and plants rare in Connecticut. Ospreys nest with overviews of expanses of billowing marsh grasses, while piping plovers feed on exposed mudflats at low tide. This marsh system includes not only the main island but also the marshes along three main creeks flowing into the river from the east.

Neri Clark, Xavier Clark, and Teresa Smith, descendants of Clayton Clark, initially agreed to register their property with The Nature Conservancy. As children, they had spent summers on the land and recalled the richness of its wildlife. After registering the property, they decided that donating it to the Connecticut Chapter would best fit their long-term desires to keep the land forever wild.

The Clark family's donation follows other gifts in the area from Conservancy members and friends



Osprey

An Open Letter From the New Development Director

Hello to you all. My name is Noreen Palladino Cullen and I have the privilege of joining The Nature Conservancy as the director of development for the Connecticut Chapter. For many years now, I have been involved with groups and activities that have kept me close to nature. These include the Girl Scouts, camping, woods walking, and a teaching certification in biology.

My first job out of college was as a teacher, which I left after five years to become a banker. I resigned as a bank vice president to join the Conservancy staff; working in the teaching and banking fields wasn't allowing me to contribute to the preservation of nature, my first love. I am delighted to have this chance to blend my experiences and apply them to a career with The Nature Conservancy. Having been a Connecticut Yankee all my life, I feel the urgency we all do to protect vital habitats throughout our lovely state.

Realizing that environmental efforts require both idealism and funding to be most effective, I plan to further develop a combination of private gifts and corporate contributions to keep the momentum going toward our important land protection goals.

What could be more wonderful than investing each day in an endeavor close to the heart? I hope to make a solid contribution to The Nature Conservancy for a long time to come.

Sincerely,

Noreen P. Cullen

Director's Note: We are delighted to have Noreen join the staff of the Connecticut Chapter. She brings an unusual combination of deep environmental commitment, a sincere interest in people, and applicable business and fund-raising experience.



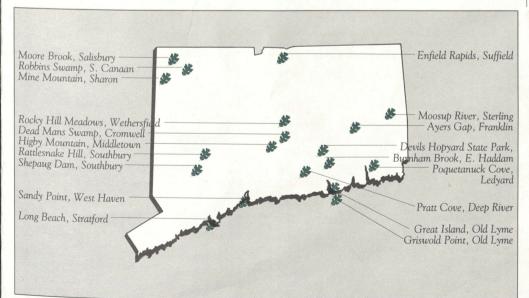
Needed: Brush Mower, Fax Machine, Tripod

The Connecticut Chapter needs a brush mower for keeping old farm fields clear and maintaining areas within preserves. Volunteers who also could donate some of their time using their mowers also would be appreciated. We also need a fax machine and a camera tripod. Please contact the Middletown office if you can help.



Sub-Chapter Selling TNC License Plate

A sturdy, 6-by-12-inch aluminum license plate bearing The Nature Conservancy logo in green and white is available for \$6 (postage included) from: Glastonbury Sub-Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, c/o Mr. Joseph Stannard, 48 Ripley Road, Glastonbury, CT 06033. The weatherproof plate has standard mounting holes. Proceeds go to the Glastonbury Sub-Chapter.



From the Land

Published quarterly for the members of the Connecticut Chapter of The Nature Conservancy.

Editor: Jack McCain Designer: Pollard Design Contributing Writers: Connecticut Chapter Staff and Trustees

Chapter Records 46 Percent Increase In Connecticut Acorns

A 46 percent increase in the number of Connecticut Acorns during 1988 has strengthened the ability of the Chapter to

respond to the land preservation challenges with which we are

The number of Acorns—people who made an annual donation of at least \$100 to Chapter operations—now stands at a record 982.

Our thanks go to all who joined as Acorns in 1988 and to those

generous Acorns who renewed or upgraded their support in

We have made every effort to make the following list of new Acorns accurate, but if there are errors or omissions, we would like to hear from you. We are sorry that space does not allow us to list every Connecticut Acorn.

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The Nature Conservancy Connecticut Chapter 55 High Street Middletown, CT 06457-3788 (203) 344-0716

National Office: 1815 North Lynn St., Arlington, VA 22209

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This snow goose was photographed by Anne Sargent in October 1988 at Hatchett's Point, a privately owned headland in Old Lyme on Long Island Sound where the Conservancy holds a conservation easement. The snow goose, which breeds in the Arctic and winters along the Gulf Coast of Louisiana and Texas, usually migrates through the Mississippi Valley, but many also pass through Connecticut and stop at the Connecticut River estuary. Its distinguishing field mark is its black wing tip, which differentiates it from the swan, which is larger and has a longer neck.

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